

ICE

High level
service

-2-

Heat

Heat flags
ready

-6-

Softball

Bulldogs drop
another game

-7-

Derby

MCG at the
Kentucky
Derby

-8 and 9-



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on cable
Channel 80

**Check out the
Marine Corps
Web site:**

<http://www.usmc.mil>

**or the MCLB
Barstow Web site at:**

<https://www.bam.usmc.mil/>



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

Marines from the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard salute during the playing of the national anthem at the Kentucky Oaks Race May 4, as a giant television displays the image for race fans in the stands. The mounted color guard performed for crowds during the Kentucky Derby Festival May 3-5 in Louisville, Ky.

Mounted Color Guard displays the red, white and blue at the Kentucky Derby

By Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona
Combat Correspondent

The United States Marine Corps was created 231 years ago in Tun Tavern, Pa. The Kentucky Derby made its debut at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. 133 years ago. The MCLB Barstow Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard was formed in Barstow, Calif. 40 years ago.

Marine and Louisville history crossed paths May 3, when the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard became the first mounted Marine unit to lead the Pegasus Parade and present the colors in the Kentucky Oaks Race and Derby. This honor didn't happen by acci-

dent, it took careful planning and months of preparation both on the Marine Corps and the City of Louisville sides.

Maj. William Carroll, commanding officer, Recruiting Station Louisville, said the wheels of motion started spinning November 2006. The idea was born when his staff discovered the mounted color guard's Web site, and suggested the color guard open for the Derby during a meeting with Sixth Marine Corps Recruiting Command.

"We thought they would be a great way to show the different aspects of the Marine Corps to the people of Louisville, we wanted to show that Marines aren't just about

guns," said Carroll.

His staff went through many channels within the local government to complete their mission, including speaking to the Louisville police and Larry Hays, the assistant mayor of Louisville.

Carroll's team contacted the mounted color guard and went to work to ensure their spot in the parade and other Kentucky Derby Festival events.

While Carroll's team put the cogs in motion in Louisville, Gunnery Sgt. Ivan Collazosanchez, Staff Non-commissioned Officer in Charge, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, was hard at work with his team to prepare them for situations

they might encounter while on the trip.

Because most of the color guard's events are in the West, they had to prepare the horses for a nearly 2,000 mile trek across the USA.

"The horses performed wonderfully. I'm very surprised they handled and behaved themselves. I didn't expect that from them on the first trip," said Collazosanchez.

While on the road, the team had to endure bad traffic, unfavorable weather and other motorists. Days started early for the team and ended late because not only did



Comments, questions or concerns filed with the base Interactive Customer Service Evaluation system are automatically routed to the service provider, and the service provider can respond directly. To access the ICE Web site, visit the MCLB Barstow Web site located at: www.mclbonline.barstow.usmc.mil and click the ICE logo.

This weeks' ICE corner features appreciation of the high level of service provided. Thank you for all of your feed-back and your continued use of the ICE system.

Customer's Comments:

Mr. Lance Koontz has been doing an excellent job of sprucing up the landscape on Yermo Annex. He has cleaned up many neglected areas (trees and shrubs) not covered by a service contract. The initiative displayed in his efforts to beautify the area

between the Railhead Exchange and Building 590 has caught the attention of a number of base employees. He has worked independently and has shown a drive to excel at the clean-up tasking.

I would like him to know that his attention to detail and his self-directed efforts have been greatly appreciated by many of us that work here on the base. Thank You.

I am very grateful for the base recycling program. **Liz Sena**, who is the pro-

gram manager, has been most congenial. I was the recipient of some free railroad ties and was able to landscape and line my driveway. I could not afford to buy the amount of railroad ties I received through the recycling program. Again, I am most grateful and thankful for such a wonderful program that allows base personnel to utilize such items that would otherwise go to the landfill. It would be a nice gesture to recognize such a wonderful program.

Chaplain's Corner

A little peace of mind

By Lt. Tavis Long
Base Chaplain

On May 28, 1937, at 12 noon, President Franklin D. Roosevelt pushed a button in Washington D.C. sending a telegram giving the permission for the first vehicle to cross the Golden Gate Bridge. The magnificent, vermilion orange structure that linked San Francisco with Marin County, California was the product of four years of labor.

Joseph Baerman Strauss, the chief engineer, completed the project within the \$35 million budget, which was quite a significant feat considering the United States was still entangled in the Great Depression. Today, the bridge still spans the waterway known as the Golden Gate and is a symbol of beauty on the San Francisco Bay.

Though the bridge was completed under budget, it still provided a challenge to Strauss and his men. Safety was, perhaps, Strauss' main concern. Therefore, he developed some new standards of safety for his men. Hard hats were issued and

daily sobriety tests were taken to ensure that his workers were cared for and the work could continue without delay. This was especially important since at that time, it was estimated that for every \$1 million spent, one person would lose his life.

Working atop the bridge was, indeed, very dangerous. Sixty mile per hour winds pulled at the working men clinging to the top of the edifice. To fall meant certain death, for the swirling waters of the Golden Gate were merciless.

The bridge towers stood almost 750 feet above the water and if a worker lost his footing he would plummet into the water with the affect of a car hitting a cement wall going 80 mph. The men spent most of their time and energy, not on their work, but rather on mere sur-



See CHAPLAIN Page 10

Just doing my job ...



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

Claudia Crocker, meat cutter, base commissary, sorts meat that the commissary puts on sale. Crocker is a Detroit native and has served 18 years of civil service, five in the Barstow base commissary. She enjoys spending time outdoors with her family.

Chapel Services

Catholic Mass
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
505 E. Mt. View Barstow
Sundays, 7:30 a.m. Misa En Espanol
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. English

Protestant Services
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Jewish Services
Call 252-0148
for more information

Barstow Log

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News Briefs

Scholarship Opportunity
The nonprofit organization ThanksUSA invites all children and spouses of military personnel to apply for one of 1,000 scholarships of \$1,000 each for college, vocational and technical school.

The deadline for application is tomorrow.

To apply or learn more about the scholarship, download the scholarship application from www.ThanksUSA.org.

For more information contact Francis Villeme at 577-6118.

SMP Fundraiser

The Single Marine Program will be hosting a barbeque fundraiser at Building 15 today from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The event will take place behind the blue wing closest to the fire department.

All personnel are welcome to attend and support the SMP.

For more information contact Lance Cpl. Farhan Ahmed at 577-6539

2007 Bulldogs Basketball Schedule

Monday- 6:30 p.m.

May 30- 6:30 p.m.

June 4- 8:30 p.m.

June 6- 8:30 p.m.

All games are played at Cora Harper Community Center on Barstow Road.

For more information contact James Amos at 577-6812.

Leave Sharing Program

Shawn M. Monahan, Special Staff Offices, Environmental Division, has been affected by a medical emergency. Anyone desiring to donate leave under the "Leave Sharing Program" may obtain a leave donor application through their administrative office.

For more information, contact Johnnie Curtis at 577-6734, Ramona Mendez at 577-6396 or Kelly Woodford at 577-6638.

Case Lot Sale

The base commissary is scheduled to have a case lot sale today from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. and

Saturday from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Supplies are limited so shop early. For more information call 577-6439.

Barstow Unified School District

Parents registering their children for kindergarten will need to bring the child's immunization records, birth certificate, physical exam, social security number and proof of residency.

Montara registration continues tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lenwood registration begins Monday from 9 a.m. to noon. Henderson registration begins May 24 and 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For More information, please contact Barbara Hill at (760) 255-6028.

Service Award Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007 Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award, which is to be presented by the NAACP at their 98th annual convention being held July 7 through 12 in Detroit.

The award is to be presented to a military or civilian member from each of the military services who have distinguished themselves by making a significant contribution to their country in the area of civil rights, race relations, equal opportunity, human resources or public service. Commanders and supervisors may nominate both military and civilian employees to receive the award regardless of race or ethnicity. Nominations must be submitted by May 21, and can be submitted both electronically and in hard copy.

For more information, see Marine Administrative Message 285/07, or send an e-mail to russell.whitney@usmc.mil.

Army Aviation Association of America

The AAAA is hosting a Chapter meeting today from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Karaoke Lounge at the Outer Limits at Fort Irwin. Free

Sempertoons

Created by Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf
USMC Active

**"Your requests are back
from the X.O. and the C.O.,
They both said, N.O!
Now, G.O!"**



sempertoons.com
myspace.com/semperton

drinks and food. You need not be a member to attend or an aviator to be a member.

CIO Awards

Nominations for the 2007 Department of Defense CIO Awards are now being accepted. The awards seek to recognize individuals for their outstanding achievement in one of the key areas of information technology outlined in Ref. C. Nominees are judged on how their actions resulted in improved service, saved money or positively impacted their organization's mission.

Details on selections/judging criteria, as well as copies of prior award winner nominations, can be found at this web page, <https://hqddod.hqmc.usmc.mil/dodcioawardsusmc.asp> <<https://hqddod.hqmc.usmc.mil/dodcioawardsusmc.asp>>.

Nominees may be an individual, with a civilian having to be less than an SES, and a military mem-

ber who is less than a flag officer. Teams can be nominated as well.

Packages for nomination must be turned in no later than Wednesday.

Landscaping workshop

The Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation, AWAC, is offering a free landscaping workshop at Barstow Community College/ Norman Smith Center on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

The workshop will offer ideas on how to design landscapes around water efficient plants and irrigation systems.

The goal is to promote efficient use of water and increase awareness of water conservation in the High Desert Region.

For more information go to www.hdawac.org.

Trade Show

The annual Information Technology/ Trade Show will be held at Fort Irwin's Reggies on June

12 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The event will have major technology companies demonstrating the latest, fastest and "best of show" computers, related hardware and accessories. These shows are the perfect forum for IT users, buyers and planners to discuss requirements and future IT challenges with knowledgeable Federal Sales Representatives. The event is free and open to everyone. For more information call David Hurst, military liaison for Global Concept Productions at toll free 866-408-5922.

Editor's Note

"News Briefs" are designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Any submissions to be used in the paper should be received Fridays by noon for the following week's issue. Submit briefs via e-mail to BSTW_PAOLIST@usmc.mil.

Mounted Color Guard:

Travel across country to the Kentucky Derby

By **Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona**
Combat Correspondent

When the Public Affairs Chief gave me the assignment to go with the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, she told me to keep a journal of our travels. It wasn't exactly Louis and Clark, but we did have our adventures while traveling across the country.

Day 1 **Needles, Calif.**

We stopped in Needles, Calif., to get supplies. While refueling, we encountered an old "gunny" that served as Force Recon in Saigon, Vietnam. He was impressed with our trailers and wished us luck on our journey. As I write, we are crossing the Colorado River into Arizona, Cpl. Justin M. Tully's home state. Spirits are high as are our supplies.

Holbrook, Ariz.

After hours of traveling we rest in Navajo County. The native people were kind enough to stable our horses tonight. Marines have been coming out of the woodwork to wish us success and good travels. Gunnery Sgt. Ivan Callazosanchez says tomorrow will start early.

Day 2 **Arizona/New Mexico border**

The day starts before dawn and the horses are ready to move before sunrise. Along the highway, we encountered lost remnants of creatures from the Jurassic period. I was uneasy, but the horses weren't scared at all.

Tucumcari, N.M.

We rest in Tucumcari, N.M. for the evening. There are only four stalls for five horses, but Gunny expects no problems. The support we are receiving from everyone we encounter is amazing. So far so

good.

Day 3 **Oklahoma City**

Another early day as we ride through the Lone Star State into Oklahoma. We finally arrive in Oklahoma City. Of course, we sleep in the finest accommodations the Corps can afford. No ice machine in this hotel, so our dinner tonight is leftover ham and turkey sandwiches. YUM!

Day 4 **Cuba, Mo.**

The same old routine in the morning: load food, load horses and clean up. Today is started, while the horses were happy and we get another head start. A day so good, something had to go wrong.

Only 30 miles from our destination Cpl. Tully's truck died. We assessed the situation; our main priority was to secure the horses. Gunny made two trips with the working truck to get the horses to the stables

while Cpl. Tully and Sgt. Maj. Richard Rush called in a tow-truck to take the downed vehicle to the repair shop.

Finally we made it to the hotel.

We fall asleep unsure of what the fate of our mission is. If the repair shop has the needed part in stock, we can be on our way with minor delays. If not, we'll have to find another way.

Day 5

Gunny, Cpl. Tully and Lance Cpl. Charlton left to feed the horses and check on the status of the truck. It seems such a waste to have traveled all this distance only to have to turn around and come home.

Finally, around 11 a.m., we received word that they fixed the truck! We rush to put the horses in the trailer so we can get on the road again.

Elizabethtown, Ky.

After hours of driving, we ar-

rived at our destination. After the horses were taken care of, we got to sleep in the hotel; today seemed like the longest day yet.

Day 6 **Louisville, Ky.**

We slept in until 5 a.m. today, awesome. After feeding the horses, the marketing and public affairs Marine from Region Six Recruiting Command showed us where the horses will be stabled for the Derby and where the Pegasus parade will be.

After he showed us around, we ate lunch with his command. During lunch they suggested we visit the Louisville Slugger museum.

Being proud red-blooded Americans, we took them up on the offer (the museum is free with military identification).

See **TRAVEL** page 9

Government vehicles are for official use only

By Cpl. Nich R. Babb
Combat Correspondent

A government vehicle is used to complete many different missions and jobs, on and off base. Marine Corps and base orders regulate how the government vehicles are to be used. If someone were to break the orders governing these vehicles, they would be putting lives in jeopardy and committing a dangerous crime.

The procedures for using government vehicles properly is not hard to comprehend, but despite the simplicity, base personnel still choose to not follow the rules, said Tim Hutzley, transportation manager, MCLB Barstow.

There are currently 537 government vehicles on base, and all of them are governed by Base Order P11240.24b, procedures for operation and maintenance of garrison mobile equipment, said Hutzley. These vehicles include sedans, vans, trucks, material handling and engineering

equipment, but do not include tactical vehicles.

According to the order, these vehicles are for official use only.

Official use occurs when a vehicle is used for its intended purpose and nothing else, states the order. This includes using a sedan or passenger van to transport people and not the flat bed of a truck, as well as using a truck or van to transport large tools instead of a sedan.

Vehicles given to individuals for temporary additional duty purposes also have an official use, the order states.

This includes going to eating establishments, places of worship, cleaning establishments and any other places that provide health and comfort to an individual that are similar to the aforementioned facilities.

Uses not authorized for government vehicles, according to Hutzley, includes transporting family or friends who live in the general area or where the TAD station is located, unless it is pre-authorized. Also, us-

ing a vehicle for entertainment purposes, like going to a bar, zoo or beach, is not allowed.

There are even instances when driving on base or in the local area,

where a government vehicle cannot be used, Hutzley said.

See **VEHICLE** page 10



Photo by Cpl. Nich R. Babb

Cedric Baker, occupational safety specialist, base safety office, puts mail for his office in his shop's government vehicle during a daily mail run. Going to the base post office to pick up mail for a work section is considered an official use for a government vehicle. In contrast, going to the post office in town to mail a package to a family member is not allowed.

Here comes the desert heat, here comes the Heat Flags

Compiled by Cpl. Quentin Grogan
Combat Correspondent

On May 1, the Base Safety Office began its summer long campaign of monitoring the heat conditions that will continue until Sept. 30.

Each day, the heat will be monitored from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and base employees will be notified of the flag conditions throughout the day through e-mail and phone calls to specific offices. As heat conditions change, so do the flags.

The flags will be flown at the

Nebo Main Gate and at Building 15. Employees who work on the Yermo Annex are advised to follow the heat conditions posted at the Maintenance Center.

The heat conditions are monitored using the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature Index.

For those veterans of MCLB Barstow, it is easy to tell when the Black Flag goes up in the desert heat. But by utilizing the WBGTI, the Base Safety Office can tell exactly when to put up each of the four colored flags which are, in order

from lowest to highest, green, yellow, red and black.

The WBGTI is a heat stress indicator that calculates three different heat stress factors: dry bulb (normal temperature), wet bulb, (humidity indicator), and the black globe thermometer (radiant heat from the sun).

To determine the WBGTI, one has to use the mathematical formula of: $WBGT + 0.7 \times WT + 0.2 \times GT + 0.1 \times DBT$, according to Wikipedia.

But why bother with that hassle when Base Safety puts the informa-

tion out daily using a simple method to perform the calculations; the wet bulb feeds the information into a computer and gives the exact WBGTI and determines the proper flag to be flown.

For more information regarding the WBGTI, check Base Order 6200.7A, Heat Injury Prevention, which can be found on <https://mclbonline.barstow.usmc.mil>.

The following is a list of the different flags, conditions in which they are flown and the actions required to follow.

Green Flag

Green Flag conditions occur between a WBGTI of 80 to 84.9. Heavy exercise for unacclimatized personnel will be conducted with caution and under constant supervision

Yellow Flag

A Green Flag is changed to a Yellow Flag when the WBGTI ranges from 85 to 87.9. Strenuous exercise, such as marching at standard cadence, will be suspended for unacclimatized personnel in their first two or three weeks in the area. Outdoor classes in the sun are to be avoided.

Red Flag

A Red Flag is posted between 88 and 89.9 WBGTI. All physical training is to be halted for those personnel not acclimatized to the area thoroughly by at least 12 weeks of living and working in the area. Those who are acclimatized may carry on limited activities, not to exceed six hours per day.

Black Flag

The Black Flag is raised when the WBGTI meets or exceeds 90. All nonessential physical activities will be halted for all personnel during the Black Flag conditions.



Bulldogs leave week three, losing another game

By Cpl. Quentin Grogan
Combat Correspondent

After winning their first game of the young Barstow City Softball League season, the MCLB Barstow Bulldogs followed this victory with a 15-4 pounding at the hands of the ATINo Names at the Robert A. Sessions Sportspark.

Though the Bulldogs looked as if it found a winning formula in the week two victory, it did not take long for the ATINo Names to bring the 'Dawgs' back to earth.

In the first inning, it looked as if it was going to be a close, hard fought game with both teams scoring one run.

But, from the second inning on the No Names were unstoppable.

During the second inning, the 'Dawgs' fell behind 5-1 and in the third it was 8-1.

It was not until the fourth when the

Dawgs finally posted another run on the scoreboard.

With runners on first and second, and count at three balls and one strike, the

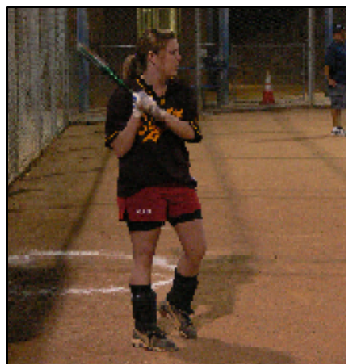


Photo by Cpl. Quentin Grogan

Elizabeth Niemeyer, catcher, watches the play before taking her next at bat with the Bulldogs down 12-2 in the fifth inning. She is one of the players who also plays multiple positions. Last week she was the starting first baseman.

second baseman Margarita Martinez drove a hard line drive to left center field which scored the runner on second, making the score 8-2. Martinez was one of the top players of the game for the Bulldogs, and ended the game going 1-for-2 with a single, a walk, and one run batted in.

"We made a couple good plays, but that is just not enough," said Martinez. "Once everyone comes around and plays to their potential, we can beat a lot of teams."

In the fifth inning the No Names continued to pile it on, scoring another four runs to put the score at 12-2.

To avoid the 10-run mercy rule, which is designed to end games early in a case of a blowout by one team, the Bulldogs had to score a run to delay ending the game early. The Bulldogs did just that and got one run across the plate to make the score 12-3 after an inside the park

home run by shortstop Quentin Grogan.

After three quick outs, the Bulldogs went back out in to the field and gave up another three runs.

Down 15-3, the Dawgs went to bat in the fifth inning looking for 12 runs to tie the game. Unfortunately they would fall 11 runs short of the goal. The game ended in the fifth with a score of 15-4, the loss falling on the Bulldogs side.

"We have a good team, we just need more practice," said left fielder Anthony Lockhart, who made two hard catches in the field throughout the game.

As the Bulldogs continue their search for success, the team remains optimistic about their chances in the league and understands the season is still young. They now go into week four with a 1-3 record.

"A record of 1-3 just isn't good enough; we have the team to win. We just have to play like it," said Coach Michael Woods.

DERBY from page 1

they have to worry about themselves, but they also had to ensure the horses were well fed and not overworked by the journey.

At one point in the trip Collazosanchez said the mission could have been jeopardized.

Cpl. Justin M. Tully, noncommissioned officer in charge, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard said he was driving uphill 32 miles south of Cuba, Missouri when his truck's power cut out.

"First, the power steering went out, then the brakes and finally the engine. I had to pull over safely to protect the horses and Marines in the truck," said Tully.

The truck's high pressure oil line, which is supposed to be pumping at 3,200 pounds per square inch, was only pumping at 38 psi, which caused the engine to die, said Tully.

He said the truck's faulty part caused minor setbacks while the team had to wait for the vehicle to be repaired.

"With the past events we have done we were prepared for everything," said Collazosanchez, "everything came together in our favor and everyone knew what to do when things went wrong," he said.

After the repairs were made, the mounted color guard made it to their destination in Kentucky, where both sides of planning came together. Due to 6th MCRC's work with the Derby officials, the mounted color guard had the honor of performing in every event of the Kentucky Derby Festival, the Kentucky Oaks race, the Kentucky Derby and the Pegasus Parade.

The horses the team rides are wild palomino mustangs captured by the Bureau of Land Management. Palomino is the light tan color of the horses, constant maintenance and grooming is required to keep the horses looking their best.

To keep their color, the horses have to be cleaned from head to hoof said Pfc. Lucas Shull, guard, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard.

"All the cleaning and care pays off, people compliment us on how our horses look, it's a good feeling," said Shull.

Lance Cpl. Ryne Charlton, guard, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, said he felt honored to be on the color guard because he gets to represent the Marine Corps and also work with the horses.

"I always liked horses and now I get to work with them everyday," said Charlton.

Tully said that presenting the colors at the races was an experience he won't forget, yet can't describe.

"All you have to do is stay focused and look through the crowds. You're excited and nervous because after hours of training with the horses you hope that they will perform. It's true what they say, you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink. It's the same with presenting the colors, you can teach the horse to stand still, but if the horse doesn't want to do it, he won't, no amount of training can force a horse to do anything," said Tully.

He said the cheering of the 156,000 people in attendance of the races was amazing and gave him chills while riding.

"Not many people knew we existed, but a lot more know now. Hopefully we can grow as a color guard and be able to do more events like this in the future," said Tully.

After the Derby, the mounted color guard packed up their gear and started on the journey home.

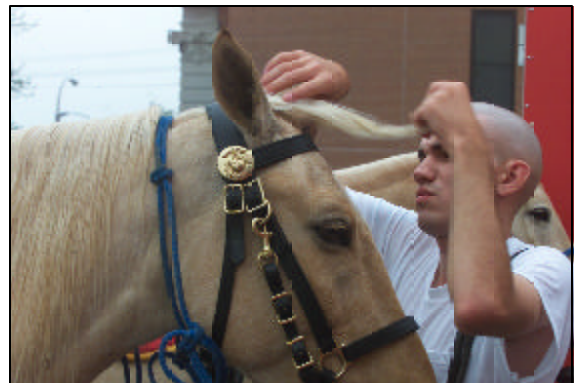
"This has been one of the most intense trips we've made, we've been seen all across the United States and we've experienced how people feel about us. We were treated like royalty," said Collazosanchez.

By the journey's end, the team showed that their obstacles, deadlines and situations could be overcome with dedication, motivation and a little hard work.



The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard rides down the street in downtown Louisville, Ky. during the Kentucky Derby, kicking off the first of three events before the race. After the Pegasus Parade, the mounted color guard traveled all the way to Louisville for the Kentucky Derby.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona
Combat Correspondent



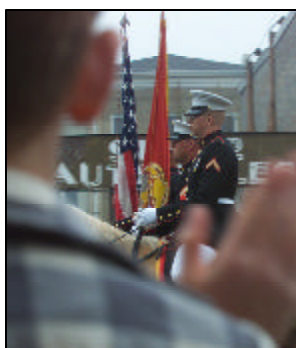
Lance Cpl. Ryne Charlton, guard, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard prepares his horse, Tripoli "Cho", before the Pegasus Parade. Hours of training and care are put into the horses to ensure they are in top condition to perform in events such as parades, races and rodeos.



The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard rides in columns of twos down the track at Churchill Downs. This is the first time the Mounted Color guard has ever opened for the Kentucky Derby.



During the Pegasus Parade. The parade was two days before the Kentucky Oaks Race took place the day before the most 2,000 miles to participate in the Kentucky Derby Festival.



A Louisville native waves as the mounted color guard passes by. The mounted color guard was the first mounted Marine unit to open for the Kentucky Derby.

TRAVEL from page 4

Everyone was impressed with the vast baseball history, and learned a great deal about how baseball bats are made.

We took a tour of the factory and practiced our swinging in the indoor batting cages. Cpl. Tully is a natural. I, on the other hand, was reminded why I stick to writing stories and taking pictures.

We returned early to take care of the horses and to get our rest.

Day 7 The Pegasus Parade

It's raining.

We left early today because the stables are an hour away from the parade in Louisville.

Even though we had an early start the team moves like a well oiled machine, the horses are cleaned, their hooves polished and finally the saddles are put on. The team mounted the horses and prepared for the parade. Amazingly the rain subsided just in time before the parade.

After the parade, we cleaned and loaded the horses into the trailer and then back to the stables in Elizabethtown, Ky. The team celebrated with some pizza and hit the rack early, tomorrow: the Kentucky Oaks race.

Day 8 The Kentucky Oaks

We get up early, no news here. We load the horses and head to Churchill Downs to do the Kentucky Oaks race ceremony. This will be a good practice run for the team, before the big race tomorrow. The rain yesterday and early this morning made the track more suitable for a Marine mud run, but the team is unfazed by the rain.

They put on their uniforms and rode out to present the colors, a lone trumpet played the national anthem and after the final note, salutes were cut and the crowd went crazy.

When the team got back they had to clean the mud off the back of their horses, uniforms, flags, and saddles. It's a lot of work but they have to be clean before the Derby tomorrow. The horses were stabled there at the Downs. Gunny told everyone to perform tomorrow like today never happened; I guess the saying is true for the mounted color guard as it is for deployed units, "complacency kills." If they get comfortable with their performance, they will make a mistake tomorrow.

Day 9 The Kentucky Derby

There's only time for a quick coffee as we head to Churchill Downs, not that anyone needs it. We clean the horses like never before, every detail checked and double checked. Nothing is too small to go unnoticed. This pays off, because the attention to detail attracted the eyes of a local television reporter. The teams got ready an hour earlier to get a television interview with the press and allow some race enthusiasts to take pictures.

As the 3rd race ended the mounted color guard made their way down the track, all the hard work, the long hours of driving and the early days and late nights came down to these 10 minutes in between races three and four. The beginning notes of The Star Spangled Banner played and silence filled the Downs. The Marines stand there, a reminder to the thousands of race spectators of the strength of our nation and the Corps.

After the Derby, we were treated to an Italian dinner featuring cooking by Lance Cpl. Ryne Charlton's mother. Delicious! Tomorrow we prepare for the journey home.

Day 10 Cuba, Mo.

Another day of driving but today it seemed much shorter. The family that stabled our horses let us relax and fish on their lake. Cpl. Tully took the fishing award with a grand total of 13 fish. After we fished, we ate barbeque, by far Missouri has the best food.

Day 11 and 12 Tucumcari, N.M.

We leave Missouri, rest in Oklahoma and head for Tucumcari again. The storms clear up the closer we get to New Mexico. We move through Texas without stopping and rest early in New Mexico.

Day 13 Holbrook, Ariz.

The same morning routine is done with lightning speed; it's second nature now. We crossed the New Mexico border into Arizona, one more day of travel until we return home.

Day 14 Barstow, Calif.

Days of waking up early and driving has taken its mental toll on the Marines, driving on Highway 40 reminds me of any episode of the Flintstones; it's the same things over and over again.

We finally make it; the desert never looked so good.

Mission accomplished.

Gunnery Sgt. Ivan Collazosanchez, Staff Non-commissioned Officer in Charge, Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, double checks his equipment after mounting his horse Montezuma "Willy".



CHAPLAIN from page 2

vival.

Strauss realized this dilemma and pulled his head engineers together to figure out a means of increasing productivity and ensuring his worker's safety.

Finally, they crafted the idea of suspending a safety net below. Strauss had a trapeze net brought to the worksite and suspended it from end to end beneath the bridge floor. With the renewed assurance of the safety net, the work moved faster. Men had more confidence as they worked, some finding the courage to jump from iron work to iron work and walk around hundreds of feet above the water without any harnessing at all.

All this was because they knew that if they were to lose their footing, the safety net would catch them. All in all, 19 men used the net and their lives were saved.

Can you imagine the peace of mind that came to these men when they realized that that net was pro-

vided for their safety? No longer did they have to gingerly work, but they were free to meet the task with their full effort.

What an illustration for our spiritual walk! So often we allow fear and worry to paralyze us so that we become ineffective in our walk with the Lord. But, we should never let that happen, for we too have a safety net.

That safety net is Jesus Christ Himself.

Consider what God says in Isaiah 41:10: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

You see, there is no need for worry. As a child of God, who has a relationship through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, you are free to cast off the fear and worry and walk freely with Him.

He is the one who provides for your safety.

Do not let the affairs of this world block your view of the One who is protecting you and provid-

ing for you. Remember, if a sparrow cannot fall with His knowing, then how can you fall without Him knowing?

After all, you are more important to Him than the sparrows (Matthew 10:29-31).

VEHICLE from page 5

According to the order, while off base, stopping at a house, restaurant, convenient store or a liquor store is prohibited.

While on base, one cannot stop at any of the post exchanges, even if it is just to pick up a bottle of water. In addition, taking a vehicle to any building that has the purpose of providing personal goods or services to the driver is not constituted as an official use for a government vehicle.

During the operation of these government vehicles, there are a few actions that need to be completed, and some that are to be abstained from, said Hutzley.

All passengers riding in a government vehicle are required to wear

seatbelts, including when a person is driving a forklift or vehicle with a top speed that is slower than the speed limit.

Using any sort of tobacco products within the confines of the government vehicle is absolutely prohibited, as well as using cell phones in any capacity, stressed Hutzley.

For instances of misuse of a government vehicle, there are punishments given to those who deserve them, Hutzley said.

As it pertains to all government employees, depending on the severity of the misuse of a government vehicle, a person can be suspended from their job, without compensation, for no less than one month.

In cases that are extreme misuses of government vehicles, a person can be suspended for longer than one month or even removed from office.

The important thing for people to remember is that a government vehicle is not owned by the individual, said Hutzley.

The vehicles are meant to be used by government employees for government purposes only.



Commanders' Spring Social
Colonel K. Enzor and Colonel S. Dalke are inviting all active and retired military, aboard MCLB Barstow, to the Commanders' Spring Social at the Oasis Club on Thursday, May 31, 2007. The event begins with social hour from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by dinner at approximately 6 p.m. with festivities concluding at 10 p.m.

The menu will include heavy hors d'oeuvres with carving station. Live music provided by the Boogiemens for your dancing enjoyment, along with drink specials, and poolside bar. The Child Development Center will be offering babysitting services to current CDC patrons with advance reservations.

Dress is casual, consisting of slacks, collared shirts, spring dress, blouse, skirt, and close toe shoes. No shorts will be allowed. This event is open to all MCLB Barstow patrons over the age of 18 and their sponsored guests. The price is \$15

per person and tickets are currently on sale at the following locations: Building 319, Family Restaurant, Oasis Club, and Lanzer's Lounge. Ticket sales will end on May 24. For more information, or to purchase your ticket, contact Marketing at 577-5893.

Date Change for Next Texas Hold Em Poker Tournament
The next date for Texas Hold Em' Poker has been changed to Friday, June 15. Sign ups will begin at 5:30 p.m., with game play set to begin at 6 p.m. Buy-in is \$20 with re-buys allowed for the first hour of play. For more information, or to reserve your seat, contact Marketing at 577-5893.

SYTA Youth Foundation "Silver Lining Program"
The Walt Disney Company would like to encourage children of military families to apply for an all-expense paid educational trip to the nation's capital, provided by the Student Youth Travel Association Foundation (SYTAF) and its Silver Lining Program. Disney has a long-standing tradition of helping military families create lasting memories and supports the SYF in this exciting opportunity.

The 2nd Annual Silver Lining Program is open to applicants between the ages of 14 and 19 years. Participants will have to demonstrate, through an essay (approximately 500 words), video presentation or other media, how he or she seeks to overcome extreme circumstances relating to the Iraq war.

This could include the personal actions they took to help make a positive or dramatic change in their own lives, or those of others, and achieve personal growth. Deadline for applications is June 15, 2007. Nominee must be available for travel to Washington D.C., July 25 through July 29, 2007.

Applications can be found on www.sytayouthfoundation.org or by calling the SYF Administration Offices at (248) 693-1872 ext. 204. Completed applications can be mailed or faxed to SYTA Youth Foundation, 3048 W. Clarkson Road, Lake Orion, MI 48362.

MCX Mystery Shoppers Needed
MQMC (MR) Quantico, VA – The Marine Corps Exchange is looking for "mystery shoppers" to take part in periodic assessments of Exchange operations.

Mystery shoppers enter the local Exchange as average customers and evalu-

ate the products and services offered. As anonymous customers, mystery shoppers can do what managers cannot – they receive unbiased treatment and thus can give accurate, objective feedback on service quality.

Mystery shoppers are paid for each visit and must have Exchange privileges.

In addition, please send an email with your name, phone number, and current military base to MCX@serviceintelligence.com. Following your visit, you will submit your assignment report via the website.

For more information about the mystery shopper program, visit <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/shopping/mysteryshopper.cfm>.

Family Dining
Let's all eat dinner at the Oasis Club tonight and give Mom a night off! May's Family Dining Night menus are as follows:

May 17 – Baked Chicken
May 24 – Breaded Pork Chops
May 31 – Grilled Mahi-Mahi

Remember make Family Dining Night a traditional night out, and let us do the dishes! For more information, contact the Oasis Club at 577-6432.

AUTO 1994 Pontiac Trans Am Firebird. Performance engine, cherry red w/ T-top, leather interior and 120,000 miles. Excellent condition, \$8,000. Call 760-314-9385

APPLIANCE Gaffers & Statler Stove \$50 OBO as is. Gaffers & Statler Dishwasher \$50 OBO. Dining Room Table w/4 chairs, excellent condition \$80. Call 252-0294

ENTERTAINMENT New Estevan Black Acoustic/Electric guitar, with pick-up and amplifier, hard case and stand. Includes instruction CD's and video. Call 253-5926

MISC Oak music stand. Call 253-5926

AUTO 2001 Lincoln Navigator. Low mileage, 48,900 original mileage. Very clean. \$20,500, or best offer. Call 252-1714